



## **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

### **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

#### **Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; International Billfish Angler Survey.**

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before [Insert date 60 days after date of publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER].

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork

Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at [JJessup@doc.gov](mailto:JJessup@doc.gov)).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to James Wraith, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, 8901 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla, CA 92037, (858) 546 7087 or [james.wraith@noaa.gov](mailto:james.wraith@noaa.gov).

## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### **I. Abstract**

The International Billfish Angler Survey began in 1969 and is an integral part of the Billfish Research Program at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC). The survey tracks recreational angler fishing catch and effort for billfish in the Pacific and Indian Oceans in support of the Pacific and Western Pacific Fishery Management Councils, authorized under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA). The data are used by scientists and fishery managers to assist with assessing the status of billfish stocks. The survey is intended for anglers cooperating in the Billfish Program and is entirely voluntary. This survey is specific to recreational anglers fishing for Istiophorid and Xiphiid billfish in the Pacific and Indian Oceans; as such it provides the only estimates of catch per unit of effort for recreational billfish fishing in those areas.

## **II. Method of Collection**

The paper form is sent to anglers with recent participation in the SWFSC Billfish Research Program and is also available for downloading on the SWFSC Billfish Program Web site. Completed forms are submitted by mail.

## **III. Data**

*OMB Number:* 0648-0020.

*Form Number:* NOAA Form 88-10.

*Type of Review:* Regular (extension of a current information collection).

*Affected public:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 600.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 5 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 50.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$0 in recordkeeping/reporting costs.

## **IV. Request for Comments**

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the

collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: September 8, 2015.

Sarah Brabson,

*NOAA PRA Clearance Officer.*

**BILLING CODE: 3510-22-P.**

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